

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5733

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 2011

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MU, IR, PFOR

SUBJ: OMAN MONARCH SULTAN QABUS ENDS VISIT TO IRAN

REF: TEHRAN 1742

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: AT CONCLUSION OF SIX-DAY VISIT BY OMANI
MONARCH SULTAN QABUS MARCH 2, JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED CONT-
AINING FOLLOWING THREE IMPORTANT POINTS:

A. REGIONAL SECURITY: COMMUNIQUE EXPRESSED FAITH IN IRAN-OMAN
COOPERATION IN ALL RESPECTS FOR MAINTAINING STABILITY AND SECURITY
OF REGION, FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION, AND FREE PASSAGE THROUGH STRAIT
OF HORMUZ AND ADJACENT SEAS. IT DECLARED TWO HEADS OF STATE HAD
CONDEMNED ANY EXERTION OF INFLUENCE IN AREA BY FOREIGN POWERS AND
WOULD CONSIDER SUCH ATTEMPT TO BE AGAINST INTERESTS OF BOTH
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COUNTRIES. THE COUNTRIES WILL COOPERATE AND TAKE JOINT ACTION TO

PREVENT ACTS OF SABOTAGE ENDANGERING THEIR SECURITY.

B. CONTINENTAL SHELF: AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON CONTINENTAL SHELF DEMARCATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. EXPERTS FROM BOTH STATES WILL WORK OUT TECHNICAL MATTERS AND PREPARE TREATY FOR CONCLUSION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

C. UNDERSEA RESOURCES: TWO HEADS OF STATE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CLOSE COOPERATION ON EXPLOITATION OF UNDERSEA RESOURCES AND PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THEIR COMMON WATERS. THEY COMMISSIONED RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE JOINT ACTION TOWARD THESE ENDS.

2. OTHER POINTS IN COMMUNIQUE INCLUDED STATEMENT THAT SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AMONG ISLAMIC COUNTRIES MANIFESTED AT LAHORE CONFERENCE WAS ONLY WAY TO RETURN TO GLORY OF ISLAM AND THAT TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD COOPERATE MORE CLOSELY IN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND SECURITY FIELDS. QABUS PRAISED SHAH'S PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORLD INSTITUTION TO IMPLEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. COMMUNIQUE ALSO CONTAINED USUAL BOILERPLATE REGARDING EVACUATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL, IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 242, AND RESTORATION OF RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. END UNCLASSIFIED

3. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: CHIEF OF MFA'S 9TH POLITICAL DIVISION (PERSIAN GULF AND OIL), HASSAN IZADI, TOLD POLCOUN MARCH 11 THAT IN FACT THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD ALREADY AGREED TO ALL DETAILS REGARDING DEMARCATION OF CONTINENTAL SHELF AND AGREEMENT WOULD BE SIGNED IN EARLY APRIL WHEN OMAN'S UNDERSECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AL-ALAWI VISITS IRAN. (IZADI ALSO ASSERTED COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON SHELF HAD BEEN REACHED WITH UAE BUT SIGNATURE WOULD BE WITHHELD UNTIL UAE DISPUTE WITH SAUDI ARABIA IS SETTLED SO AS NOT TO AGGRAVATE SITUATION). IZADI DEMURRED WHEN ASKED WHETHER NEW MILITARY AGREEMENTS HAD BEEN REACHED WITH OMAN, STATING ONLY THAT GOI POLICY IS TO OFFER WHATEVER ASSISTANCE IT CAN IN ANY FIELD WHEN REQUESTED. AS EXAMPLES OF MEETING OMAN'S NEEDS HE CITED IRANIAN BANK TO BE ESTABLISHED IN MUSCAT, WEEKLY IRAN AIR SERVICE BETWEEN TWO CAPITALS, AND UNSPECIFIED "SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE" WHICH HE SAID WAS ESSENTIAL TO ATTAIN STABILITY WITHIN THAT COUNTRY.

4. COMMENT: GOI OFFICIALS AT ALL LEVELS ARE OBVIOUSLY PLEASED WITH RESULTS OF SULTAN QABUS' VISIT (SEE REFTTEL). ALTHOUGH THERE WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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APPARENTLY NO FORMAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON INCREASED COOPERATION FOR SECURITY OF GULF, COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCES THEIR DETERMINATION TO KEEP STRAIT OF HORMUZ AND ADJACENT SEAS FREE FOR NAVIGATION AND JOINTLY PREVENT ANY THREAT TO EITHER COUNTRY'S SECURITY. THIS IS FIRST PUBLIC COMMITMENT BY ANOTHER LITTORAL POWER IN RESPONSE TO SHAH'S CALL FOR REGIONAL SECURITY COOPERATION. IT CAN ONLY ADD TO IRAN'S GROWING SENSE OF SELF-CONFIDENCE IN PURSUING ITS GOAL OF REGIONAL LEADERSHIP.

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